

Amendments to the Specification

Please add the following new paragraph on page 4, line 14, before the heading "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS":

--Fig. 6 is a front view of a weigh-sensed hook assembly according to the present invention.--

Please replace the paragraph appearing on page 6, lines 4-18, with the following amended paragraph:

--The present invention, illustrated in Figs. 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a and 5b, and 6, is well suited for any WR&C lifting/support or pulling application in which accurate load weighing capability, enhanced safety, reduced cost and increased simplicity using standard WR&C fittings are also required. Although standard shackle and eye bolt fittings have been used in describing the present invention, it will be apparent to those skilled in the area that other WR&C fittings such as hooks and master links are also applicable (see Fig. 6). As a result of their basic standard shapes, such fitting have determinable positions on their surfaces (as shown in Figs. 1a, 1b, 4a, 4b and 4c) that are subject to focused linear strain when used in the said applications. In the case of shackle fittings, placement of the strain gauge element 14 on the shackle body 11 ensures that the strain gauge 14 does not interfere with the shackle pin 12 during assembly and disassembly of the shackle assembly 10 with the rest of the WR&C fitting assembly 23. Focused linear strain results in accurate load weight measurement making the said WR&C fittings very suitable in configuration for load weighing functions (such as those shown in Figs. 3, 5a and 5b) in addition to all of the original intended functions of such fittings.--